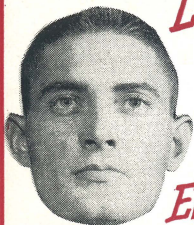
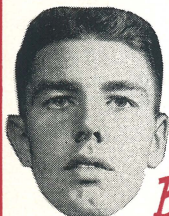


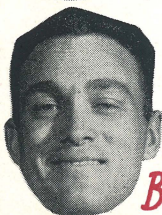
Landeros Viskozki Plunkett Hayes



Emmons



Busboom



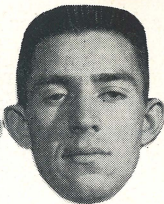
Bethune



COACH
F.H. "Buss" Delaney



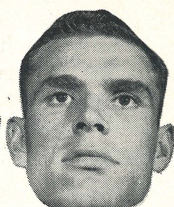
Edelen



Combs



Teague



Thrash

CENTENARY COLLEGE

Basketball Dope Book

1954-55

ce2
c38.22

At Your Service

The publicity division of Centenary's athletic department will be constantly at the service of newspapers, coaches, school publications, radio and television stations, and the basketball public.

Requests are not only welcome in this department, they are considered prime implements of our aim to provide Ark-La-Tex sports followers with the most correct impression of Centenary College in general and the athletic department in particular—through a reputable publicity service.

Any request for pictures, rosters, schedules and other publicity utilities will be met instantly.

We seek your inquiries into the athletic department, its personnel and its potential. While we endeavor to be worthy of your confidence, we in no way wish to escape legitimate constructive criticism. Your comments are our guides, and we shall be eager to conform to your demands for proper administration of our information.

Welcome to Centenary.

Information

Information needed from the Centenary College athletic department may be obtained by letter, wire or phone call. The publicity director may be contacted at phone number 7-7688 at the school, or at home at 8-8844.

Gymnasium

The Centenary College health, physical education and gymnasium building was constructed in 1936, as a gift to the college from W. A. Haynes, Shreveport philanthropist. Visiting basketball teams and fans may expect a fine playing surface, excellent dressing rooms and superior seating arrangements.

Facts About Centenary

Official Name—Centenary College of Louisiana

Denomination—Methodist

Location—Shreveport, La.

Founded—1825

Enrollment—1,600

President—Dr. Joe J. Mickle

Athletic Association—National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and National Collegiate Athletic Association

Nickname—Gentlemen or Gents

Colors—Maroon and White

Gymnasium—Haynes Memorial Gymnasium (on the campus)

Seating capacity of the gymnasium—2,100



Dr. Joe J. Mickle

Dr. Joe J. Mickle, President of Centenary College of Louisiana, is one of the most widely consulted educators in America. Since 1945 he has instituted a huge plan for the development of the Shreveport Methodist School.

His excellent knowledge of Far Eastern history and customs is a constant source of information for civic organizations and schools in the U. S. A member of the Foreign Policy Association, he has spoken on Far Eastern Policy and politics before many American audiences, drawing upon his vast familiarity with Japan—specifically—where he lived from 1921-1941. He was a student of the Japanese language for 3 years and a teacher of commercial subjects and treasurer of Kwansei Gakuin University, Kobe, Japan.

He has extensively traveled over other parts of the Far East including China, Korea, the Maritime Provinces of Russia and Manchuria as well as parts of Europe and Africa.

Presently several improvements for Centenary are under his directorship. These include increasing the school's endowment, beautification of the campus and facilities, further extension of dormitory space and more advantages for the college's evening division.

Dr. Mickle is the No. 1 booster of the athletic department and its basketball program.



Coach F. H. "Buss" Delaney

"Buss" Delaney enters his sixth successive season as basketball coach at Centenary.

Last year's 13-12 Centenary record raised his five-year won-loss total to 84 victories, 64 defeats at Centenary. His all-time coaching record is 139-93.

Buss is one of the South's leading exponents of wide-open cage play featuring fast-breaking, hard-driving and an altogether liberal approach to teaching collegiate basketball.

Delaney came to Centenary from Marion, Ala., Military Institute where he had three straight first-division teams.

His record at Centenary is as follows:

1949.....	17-13
1950.....	16-12
1951.....	17-17
1952.....	21-10
1953.....	13-12

Buss is a graduate of Western Illinois State College. He received his Master's Degree in Physical Education from the University of Illinois.

Delaney is one of the "new looks" in present-day college athletics in that he is public relations conscious, as well as being an accomplished speaker and master of ceremonies.

Delaney's forecast for Centenary basketball can be obtained from a glance at his year-to-year search for stronger opposition for the Gents, without selfish regard for his won-lost record. With the schedule constantly improving in scope and calibre, Buss contends that the Shreveport Methodist institution has a gigantic potential in basketball. A recount of his accomplishments during the past five seasons bears out his faith in Centenary, Shreveport and the Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas area.

Buss is married and is the father of two boys: Joe and Danny.

Prospectus

The Centenary Gentlemen will be playing a 22-game, two-tournament basketball schedule this season with the smallest varsity squad in several years. Only 11 players compose the Gent threat.

But, despite this dearth of manpower, Coach F. H. "Buss" Delaney advises southern basketball observers that the Gents will, in his opinion, greatly improve their 13-12 record of last season. And, a glance at the Gent roster will solve any mystery surrounding Delaney's confidence.

For the first time in several campaigns, the Gents will not sacrifice agility for height. Indeed, Centenary will have both. Delaney's nurtured wide-open, fast-break style of attack will be able to operate under the guiding hands of three stalwart "big" men, while maintaining constant pressure with the use of his pesky, scintillating-type guards.

All in all, it is a squad boasting experience, height, and agility. The team is made up of eight returnees from last season, and three potentially great newcomers.

Centenary, beginning its sixth consecutive season with Delaney directing the Gent cagers, will again spotlight Burl Plunkett, selected last season on the small-college All-American team picked jointly by the Helms Athletic Foundation and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Last year Plunkett was handed the pivot spot on a platter. The former forward specialist was given the post by Delaney when it became apparent that Burl was versatile enough to adjust his technique to the job in a pinch. His performance, while playing game after game against heavier, taller opposing centers, was brilliant.

This year, Burl is expected to reach even greater heights because the addition of a slim giant—six-foot, six-inch Monte Combs—will allow Plunkett to move back to forward. Combs is expected to take the reins at the pivot in a stylish stride, thus solving a problem that has been annoying the Delaney five for several years.

Another reason for the bright outlook on the Centenary scene is the general condition of the guard personnel. Delaney has four lettermen "quarterbacks", including regular starter Billy Joe Emmons, defensive standout Ron Viskozki, 6'5" Larry Teague and valuable Wayne Thrash who has served as a competent "stopper" when substituted in strategic spots.

Other returnees from last year's squad are Dean Busboom, a sophomore and George Hayes, a junior who performed splendidly when added to the Maroon and White varsity in mid-season last year when the varsity manpower supply was wrecked by injuries.

Two other promising newcomers are looked to by Delaney for terrific debuts at the Shreveport Methodist institution. They are Jimmy Edelen, forward flash from Tyler, Tex., junior college, and Ernesto Landeros, a freshman whiz from El Paso, Texas. Edelen was tabbed one of the best jaycee players in the whole Lone Star state at Tyler.

Backing up Combs at center will be Duke Bethune, a 6'5" young man whose plugging at improving himself is a study in determination.

The Gents will again operate under the nation's two strongest athletic governing bodies: the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the NAIA.

Centenary, independent of ties with any conference, will play 22 single games, and two tournaments. In mid-December the Gentlemen compete in the Canyon Invitational at Snyder, Tex., and following the Christmas holidays will stage their own tourney at Haynes Memorial gym in late December.

Centenary also is eligible to play in the Louisiana NAIA tournament, if the won-loss record warrants certification.

Centenary's Varsity

Home No.	Road No.	Name	Pos.
4	4	Emmons, Billy Joe	G
25	25	Plunkett, Burl	C-F
24	11	Thrash, Wayne	G
7	5	Hayes, Gabby	C-F
3	3	Viskozki, Ron	G
6	33	Teague, Larry	F
32	24	Bethune, Duke	C
5	14	Busboom, Dean	G
33	21	Combs, Monte	C
23	23	Edelen, Jimmy	F
9	20	Landeros, Ernesto	G
8		Vines, Billy	G

Last Year

Name	G	FGA	FG	PTS
Plunkett	22	330	141	42.7
Emmons	23	312	115	36.8
Hayes	8	65	32	49.2
Thrash	19	98	32	32.7
Viskozki	21	120	37	30.8
Bethune	20	74	26	35.1
Teague	20	66	21	31.8
Busboom	2	2	2	100.0

Athlet

Athletic Director and Head Basketball Coach: F. H. "Buss" Delaney

Head Baseball Coach: Edgar Burks

Golf Coach: Capt. Ray Stailey

Track Coach: F. H. "Buss" Delaney

Tennis Coach: Gene Perkins

Faculty Chairman on Intercollegiate Athletics: Dr. John B. Entrikin

Basketball Squad

Hgt.	Wt.	Age	Class	Home Town
5'-10"	153	24	4	Memphis, Tenn.
6'-3"	175	22	4	Valliant, Okla.
5'-11"	185	21	4	Heflin, La.
6'-3"	195	20	3	Taylorville, Ill.
5'-10"	154	19	2	Taylorville, Ill.
6'-5"	186	19	2	Bossier City, La.
6'-5"	195	22	4	Fyffe, Ala.
6'	182	18	2	St. Joseph, Ill.
6'-6"	208	21	3	Faulke, Ark.
6'-2"	178	20	3	Mead, Okla.
5'-11"	170	18	1	El Paso, Tex.
5'-9"	150	20	3	Converse, La.

's Statistics

	FTA	FT	PCT.	PF	TP	AVE.
	149	109	73.1	54	391	17.7
	39	30	76.9	39	260	11.3
	16	11	68.8	15	75	9.3
	47	39	83.0	31	103	5.4
	27	22	81.5	47	96	4.5
	44	23	52.3	23	75	3.7
	40	18	45.0	47	60	3.0
	0	0	—	0	4	2.0

ic Staff

Director, Physical Education: Art Adams

Business Manager of Athletics: Carl Wilkerson

Team Physician: Dr. J. P. Sanders

Team Statistician: Miss Jo Ann Debate

Trainer: O. T. Bartholomew

Student Managers: Billy Simpson and James McAdams

Ticket Manager: Mrs. Frances Gilfoil

Director, Athletic Publicity: James L. Leach

Last Year's Results

Centenary 95	Belmont College 67
Centenary 58	Stephen F. Austin 71
Centenary 60	Hamline University 61
Centenary 76	Northeast Louisiana State 82
Centenary 63	Texas Wesleyan 53
Centenary 66	Texas Western 58
Centenary 64	University of Arizona 79
Centenary 76	Arizona State 71
Centenary 85	Arkansas State 80
Centenary 62	Stephen F. Austin 60
Centenary 68	McNeese State College 59
Centenary 65	Southwestern Louisiana Institute 63
Centenary 66	Northwestern Louisiana 81
Centenary 62	East Texas Baptist 56
Centenary 70	Arkansas State 79
Centenary 80	Memphis State 70
Centenary 69	Xavier University 71
Centenary 41	Louisiana Tech 54
Centenary 70	Spring Hill College 78
Centenary 63	Mississippi Southern 67
Centenary 66	Mississippi Southern 60
Centenary 67	Spring Hill College 58
Centenary 76	Louisiana Tech 74
Centenary 70	Northwestern Louisiana 77
Centenary 60	Caterpillars 70
Centenary 64	Memphis State 57

Centenary 1954-55 Schedule

Dec. 3	S. F. Austin State	Home
Dec. 7	S. F. Austin State.....	Nacogdoches, Texas
Dec. 10-11	Canyon Invitational Tournament	Snyder, Texas (Howard Payne, Texas Tech, Centenary, N. Texas State)
Dec. 14	McNeese State	Home
Dec. 16	Texas Wesleyan	Home
Dec. 18	McNeese State	Lake Charles, La.
Dec. 28-29	Centenary Invitational Tournament	Home (Hamline University, Centenary, Louisiana Tech, McMurray)
Jan. 3	Arkansas State	Home
Jan. 4	East Texas State	Gladewater, Texas
Jan. 11	Mississippi Southern	Hattiesburg, Miss.
Jan. 15	Northwestern	Home
Jan. 24	S. L. I.	Home
Jan. 27	Louisiana Tech	Home
Jan. 29	Memphis State	Memphis, Tennessee
Jan. 31	Arkansas State	State College, Ark.
Feb. 3	Mississippi College	Home
Feb. 5	Louisiana Tech	Ruston, Louisiana
Feb. 11	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio
Feb. 12	Southern Illinois University	Carbondale, Illinois
Feb. 14	Illinois State N. University	Taylorville, Illinois
Feb. 17	Northwestern	Natchitoches, Louisiana
Feb. 19	Austin College	Home
Feb. 21	Mississippi Southern	Home
Feb. 26	Memphis State	Home

BURL PLUNKETT—This 6'3", 175-pounder made a magnificent transition from forward to center in his first season at Centenary last season—a switch so impressive that the Helms Athletic Foundation and the NAIA picked him for their small-college All-America team. Burl has about as smooth a pair of hands as has ever been seen in Louisiana. It is next to impossible to knock the ball from his hands because his forearms are never at any fixed position while he has the ball. Although he's not considered a "rough" player under the basket, Eurl has that expert sense of timing which enables him to make a great majority of his rebound efforts result in his coming off the boards with the ball. Last year he had nights of 35, 32, 31, 28 and 26 points, largely due to a picturesque jump shot from the corners. This year, Delaney expects to be able to use the likeable ace to even more advantage by putting him at forward. Burl will be playing his final year of college ball this season, and is looking forward to a ranching occupation. His hobby is rodeo riding, roping, bulldogging or just plain watching the great western sport. Burl is 22 years old, and a native of Valliant, Okla.

BILLY JOE EMMONS—Centenary's "holler" guy. Billy serves as Delaney's quarterback, so to speak. He's got the rare gift of sensing opponents' moves before they make them. A native of Memphis, Tenn., slim Bill is a 24-year-old senior, majoring in P. E. He's considered a solid floor man, with special value placed on his backcourt ability. He stands 5'10" and weighs 153.

WAYNE THRASH—A 5'10" senior from Jamestown, La., Thrash is a valuable bench man with the necessary experience to be trusted with any job of substitution in a hectic spot. An excellent student, Thrash is majoring in P. E., and wants to play professional baseball. He's one of the best-equipped flannel-clads in college circles, possessing a strong pitching arm as well as tremendous power at the plate.

"GABBY" HAYES—Is a 6'3" junior who performed creditably last season when added to the varsity in mid-season due to injuries of other players. He has a good selection of shots. He can move to forward from center with ease. His valuable service last year warrants serious consideration for first-line duty this season. He's from Taylorville, Ill. He wants to enter the teaching profession.

RON VISKOZKI—A 5'10" soph from Taylorville, Ill., made a spectacular defensive splash here last year, becoming Delaney's ball-hawk before the campaign was half over. He ended the season as a regular guard. A "heady" competitor, scrappy Ron never stands still on the floor. Should compete with Billy Emmons as floor leader. He's a good driver and is showing rapid improvement on outside shots. Ron is majoring in business.

LARRY TEAGUE—Had a good freshman year. The 6'5" Bossier City, La., youngster played his finest freshman-year game against the Peoria Caterpillars—winners of the 1954 "World" tourney in South America. His transition from prep ball to college was very complete. Delaney terms him a potentially good outside shot.

JULIAN "DUKE" BETHUNE—Is a 6'5" senior from Fyffe, Ala., Duke could add tremendously to the team should he improve. He'll duel newcomer Monte Combs for the pivot, having the necessary height and experience to do the job, providing his technique is polished.

DEAN BUSBOOM—Is the most solidly built player on the roster. A compact six-footer weighing 185, Dean is a soph. He's shown definite improvement, especially on defense. He'll fight for one of the top spots among the reserve guards. He's from St. Joseph, Ill., and plans to become a minister. His major is sociology.

MONTE COMBS—Is a junior-class newcomer from Faulke, Ark., who may be bringing with him the antidote for many of the Gents' basketball ills. Monte is a 6'6", 208-pound giant who should become the regular center. He's a fair shot, but a better rebounder. He has exceptional mobility for a big man. His performance at center may enable Delaney to shift Helms-NAIA All-American Burl Plunkett from his pivot slot of last year to his more familiar forward position. Combs should be most highly valuable on rebounds, a definite weakness of the Centenary team last season.

JIMMY EDELEN—Is a 6'3" forward dandy who should be a first-stringer. He's from Mead, Okla., and Tyler, Tex., junior college. Jim has a great jump shot, is fast, and has tremendous spring. This junior-class flash promises to give Delaney a brilliant 1-2-3 punch around the basket, together with Plunkett on the other forward and Combs at center.

ERNESTO LANDEROS—A freshman from El Paso's Thomas Jefferson high school, Landeros is a good shot, and an excellent ball-handler. He's smart and should be a valuable reserve, and future regular with more experience. A guard, he stands 5'11" and weighs 170.

PLUNKETT'S BEST

Burl Plunkett, Centenary's Helms-NAIA All-American last season, had nights of 35, 32, 30, and 28 points during the season, scoring 391 points in 22 games.

TRAVELERS

Centenary's Cagers will be seen in 11 "foreign" gymnasiums this season, in addition to a road tournament at Canyon, Texas, along with Texas Tech, Howard Payne and North Texas State.

GENTS TOURNEY

Centenary will stage a tournament at home on Dec. 28-29, including teams of Louisiana Tech, McMurray and Hamline Universities in addition to the Gents.

BLEAK DAYS

At one stretch during the season, the Gents won't be seen in action at Haynes Gym for 16 consecutive days. They play Mississippi College here Feb. 3, and don't return until Feb. 19; when they play Austin College in Shreveport.

NEW OPPONENTS

The Gents have added Austin College, North Texas State, Texas Tech, East Texas State, Illinois State Normal, Southern Illinois University, Mississippi College, McMurray and Cincinnati Universities to the '54-55 schedule.

Centenary All-Time Scoring Records

(SINGLE HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES)

BILLY HESTER, 35 points—against Louisiana College at Alexandria, La., Jan. 19, 1952.

BURL PLUNKETT, 35 points—against Arizona State at Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 17, 1953.

HAROLD MOOTY, 32 points—against Bradley University at Peoria, Ill., Dec. 21, 1950. (This is a Bradley Field House record)

CONNIE MACK REA, 31 points—against University of Arizona at Tucson, Ariz., Dec. 13, 1952.

Opponents At A Glance

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN—location: Nacogdoches, Texas; Coach: John Stephens; 1953-54 record: 12-12

HOWARD PAYNE—location: Brownwood, Texas; Coach: Bill Hinton; 1953-54 record: 12-13

TEXAS TECH—location: Lubbock, Texas; Coach: Polk Robinson; 1953-54 record: 20-5

NORTH TEXAS STATE—location: Denton, Texas; Coach: H. S. Shands; 1953-54 record: 19-9

McNEESE STATE—location: Lake Charles, La.; Coach: Ralph Ward; 1953-54 record: 12-12

TEXAS WESLEYAN—location: Ft. Worth, Texas; Coach: Dan Hart; 1953-54 record: 10-12

HAMLIN UNIVERSITY—location: St. Paul, Minn.; Coach: J. W. Hutton; 1953-54 record: 17-10

LOUISIANA TECH—location: Ruston, La.; Coach: Cecil Crowley; 1953-54 record: 12-14

McMURRAY—location: Abilene, Texas; Coach: Edgar Payne; 1953-54 record: 7-15

ARKANSAS STATE—location: State College, Ark.; Coach: John Rauth; 1953-54 record: 15-10

EAST TEXAS STATE—location: Commerce, Texas; Coach: Bob Rogers; 1953-54 record: 22-4

NORTHWESTERN LOUISIANA—location: Natchitoches, La.; Coach: C. F. "Red" Thomas; 1953-54 record: 21-9

SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA—location: Lafayette, La.; Coach: J. C. Reinhardt; 1953-54 record: 6-13

MEMPHIS STATE—location: Memphis, Tenn.; Coach: Eugene Lambert; 1953-54 record: 15-9

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE—location: Clinton, Miss.; Coach: James Allen; 1953-54 record: 21-4

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI—location: Cincinnati, Ohio; Coach: George Smith; 1953-54 record: 11-10

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY—location: Carbondale, Ill.; Coach: Lynn Holder; 1953-54 record: 12-11

ILLINOIS STATE NORMAL UNIVERSITY—location: Normal, Ill.; Coach: James Soff; 1953-54 record: 8-13

AUSTIN COLLEGE—location: Sherman, Texas; Coach: Byron Gilbreath; 1953-54 record: 13-9

MISSISSIPPI SOUTHERN—location: Hattiesburg, Miss.; Coach: Charles Finley; 1953-54 record 23-8.

NOTHING DOES IT LIKE



SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA